

NETWORK PLANNING TRAFFIC MEASUREMENT PROGRAMAbstract of the Disclosure

In a public switched telephone network, real time  
5 monitors on SS7 links will collect interoffice  
signaling messages. A site processor compiles data  
from the signaling messages relating to individual  
calls, to form call detail records (CDRs) for all  
interoffice call attempts. The site servers upload  
10 the CDRs to a central server. Automatic Message  
Accounting (AMA) records also are accumulated for at  
least selected central office switching systems and  
uploaded to a server. Programs running on the servers  
enable network operations personnel to analyze a  
15 variety of network traffic patterns, for example to  
study the number of calls to particular numbers during  
various times periods and the hold time of the calls  
in order to identify the numbers of Internet Service  
Providers (ISPs). As another example, the traffic  
20 analysis may indicate the amount of traffic between  
two end offices and the percentage thereof routed  
through a tandem office, to allow network planners to  
design trunk upgrades between the various offices  
and/or to plan the addition of new offices.